

Application No.: 09/881,275
Amendment

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

13. (New): A method of expressing a movement of a crowd made up of a plurality of individuals in an information processing apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

obtaining the number of individuals which form a crowd at time t and the position of each individual, and assigning a position to each individual in the crowd at the next time $t + 1$ in accordance with a predetermined arrangement rule;

determining a destination direction with regard to a reference point of the crowd, determined by the positions of the individuals which form the crowd at time t ;

determining the position at the next time $t + 1$ according to the position assigned by said arrangement process and said destination direction; and

determining a movement speed from a direction of the assigned position and the destination direction and moving each of the individuals based on the position and the movement speed thus determined.

14. (New): A program product storing therein a computer program which causes an information processing apparatus to execute:

an arranging process for obtaining the number of individuals which form a crowd at time t and the position of each individual, and assigning a position to each individual in the crowd at the next time $t + 1$ in accordance with a predetermined arrangement rule;

a process for determining a destination direction with

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regard to a reference point of the crowd, determined by the positions of the individuals which form the crowd at time t ;

a process for determining the position at the next time $t + 1$ according to the position assigned by said arrangement process and said destination direction; and

a process for determining a movement speed from a direction of the assigned position and the destination direction and for moving each of the individuals based on the position and the movement speed thus determined.

15. (New): An information processing apparatus comprising:

arranging means for obtaining the number of individuals which form a crowd at time t and the position of each individual, and assigning a position to each individual in the crowd at the next time $t + 1$ in accordance with a predetermined arrangement rule;

means for determining a destination direction with regard to a reference point of the crowd, determined by the positions of the individuals which form the crowd at time t ;

means for determining the position at the next time $t + 1$ according to the position assigned by said arrangement process and said destination direction; and

means for determining a movement speed from a direction of the assigned position and the destination direction and for moving each of the individuals based on the position and the movement speed thus determined.